

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) Convertible vehicle (1) with a roof (2) that has a flexible roof covering (3) at least in its rear area, wherein, in the closed state, the roof covering (3) can be held under tension relative to the automobile body (7) by at least one tension bow (11), and wherein, to open the roof (2), the tension bow (11) can first be displaced upward (AS) from a closed position in which it lies on a closed supporting structure (A) of the automobile body (7), then rotated back (RS) with the supporting structure open, and then displaced downward (AV) into an open position located below the level of the closed supporting structure (A), wherein for the upward movement (AS) and return movement (RS) of the tension bow (11), ~~on the one hand,~~ a first center of motion (25) is provided, and for ~~its~~ the downward displacement (AV) of the tension bow, ~~on the other hand,~~ a second center of motion that is separate from the first center of motion is provided, and during the downward displacement (AV) of the tension bow (11) about the second center of motion, ~~its~~ the motion of the tension bow about the first center of motion (25) is stopped, wherein during the downward displacement (AV) of the tension bow about the second center of motion, the tension bow (11) rests on a stop (26) and does not move relative to the stop (26) during the entire downward displacement (AV).

2. (Currently Amended) Convertible vehicle (1) in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the ~~movement~~ motion of the tension bow is stopped by purely mechanical means.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) Convertible vehicle (1) in accordance with Claim 1, wherein during the upward movement (AS) and the return movement (RS) of the tension bow (11), movement about the second center of motion is stopped.

5. (Previously Presented) Convertible vehicle (1) in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the first center of motion (25) is a pivot axis.

6. (Previously Presented) Convertible vehicle (1) in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the downward displacement (AV) about the second center of motion is produced by a four-bar linkage (17; 19; 21; 24).

7. (Previously Presented) Convertible vehicle (1) in accordance with Claim 6, wherein the four-bar linkage (17; 19; 21; 24) comprises two body-mounted joints (17; 19), one of which rotatably supports a lateral post section (18) that extends forward and upward in the direction of vehicle travel (F) when

the roof (2) is closed, while the other rotatably supports a short coupling link (20).

8. (Currently Amended) Convertible vehicle (1) in accordance with Claim 7, wherein the coupling link (20) and the roof post (18) are connected with each other by a control link (22) located between ~~them~~ and connected to the ~~two parts~~ coupling and the roof part by joints (21; 24).

9. (Previously Presented) Convertible vehicle (1) in accordance with Claim 8, wherein the center of motion (25) for the upward movement (AS) and the return movement (RS) of the tension bow (11) is supported on the control link (22).

10. (Previously Presented) Convertible vehicle (1) in accordance with Claim 8, wherein an arm (27) that points to the rear is assigned to the control link (22) and carries a stop (26) for limiting the movement of the tension bow (11) about the first center of motion (25).

11. (Previously Presented) Convertible vehicle (1) in accordance with Claim 10, wherein when the roof (2) is closed, the tension bow (11) is spaced some distance from the stop (26).

12. (Previously Presented) Convertible vehicle (1) in accordance with Claim 10, wherein at least the height of the stop (26) can be adjusted.

13. (Currently Amended) Convertible vehicle (1) in accordance with Claim 1, wherein in the open position of the roof (2), the tension bow (11) rests on at least one support ~~or more supports~~ (15), which are held on lateral arms (14), which are connected with a roof frame (5) that holds the roof covering (3) from below before the roof frame (5) is installed on the automobile body (7).

14. (Previously Presented) Movable vehicle roof (2) for a convertible vehicle in accordance with Claim 1.